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17 October 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Strategic Research

SUBJECT : OER Capabilities to Assist in Fulfilling the
Request Levied on CIA in Support of the
WESTPAC Base Study

REFERENCE : Your memorandum of 16 October concerning
Captain Shepard's requirements for the
Western Pacific and Indian Ocean Base Study

1. As you requested, we have reviewed the specific items desired by Captain Shepard which fall within the competence of this Office and believe that by early November we could make an input to the following:

2B. Soviet Merchant Ship Technology. This Office does follow the developing technology of the Soviet merchant marine and could give a general characterization of the level of automation likely to be reached by 1980.

2D. CPR Industrial Projections. The recent NIE on the Chinese economy carried projections forward through the early 1970's and these capabilities could be further extrapolated to 1980 although the results would be subject to a wider margin of error because of the increasing uncertainties.

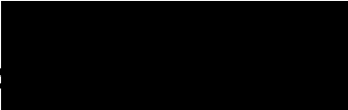
3A. Economic Strategies of the USSR and CPR in the Afro-Asian area in 1970-80. Since the Soviet aid and trade program is now about 15 years old and the Chinese one dates back about 10 years, we could discuss the possible economic strategies of both nations as these relate to political objectives.

3B. Possible Maritime Objectives of the Soviet Union in 1970-80. By limiting maritime objectives to the activities of the merchant and fishing fleets, it would be possible to discuss the situation likely to exist in the 1970's since the Soviets have talked about their longer range plans for the development of both fleets. OSI may be able to write a parallel piece on oceanography.

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11 6. We do not believe that it would be possible to make projections of Indian Ocean merchant traffic for 1970-80. This material was formerly under the control of ONI Headquarters and has now been passed to the Field Command at Suitland, Maryland. This Field Command is most probably in a position to make computer tape runs for the 1970-80 period and is known to have done some work on 1975.


Deputy Director
Economic Research

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